

**In the Drawings**

No amendments are made to the drawings herein.

### **Remarks**

By the foregoing Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 11, and are currently amended, claims 16–23 are new. Further, the Abstract is deleted and replaced with a replacement Abstract. Entry of the Amendment and favorable consideration thereof is earnestly requested in light of the following remarks.

The Examiner has objected to the information disclosure statement filed 05/19/04 as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) because the cited documented DE 2328595 lacks the English translation required for consideration of foreign patent documents. The Applicants are separately submitting a supplemental information disclosure statement including an English translation required for consideration of foreign documents in order to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

The Examiner has objected to the Abstract under 37 C.F.R. 1.72 and MPEP § 608.01(b). The Applicants have corrected the Abstract pursuant to the Examiner's objection and request favorable consideration thereof.

The Examiner has acknowledged that the subject matter of claims 2, 3, 4, and 10-15 would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants have amended claims and added new claims, as detailed below, claiming the allowed subject matter in proper independent form.


The Applicants have rewritten independent claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 2. Claims 3 – 10 and 14 depend on currently amended claim 1. The Applicants have rewritten dependant claim 3 in independent form. Claims 16 – 23, correspond to original claims 3 – 10, and 14 and depend on currently amended claim 3. The Appli-

cants have rewritten claim 11 in independent form. The Applicant have rewritten claim 15 in independent form. The Applicants appreciate Examiner's acknowledgement of allowable subject matter, and earnestly request allowance of new claims embodying the allowed subjected matter.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable over the reference of record, and earnestly solicits allowance of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

January 28, 2007

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wesley W. Whitmyer, Jr., Registration No. 33,558  
Attorney for Applicants  
ST.ONGE STEWARD JOHNSTON & REENS LLC  
986 Bedford Street  
Stamford, CT 06905-5619  
203 324-6155